

OUR GRAND MASTER'S SLOGAN
"A REVITALIZED AND GREATER TEMPLARY"



THE TEMPLAR



A FRIENDLY VOICE OF TEMPLAR INTEREST TO KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

*Official publication of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders of
Massachusetts and Rhode Island*

GEORGE A. WEEKS, *Grand Recorder*

ELLIOTT N. HOLLEY, *Grand Commander*

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EMINENT SIRS AND SIR KNIGHTS:

As we draw near the vacation period I am reminded that this will possibly be my last opportunity to address you before the end of our statistical year, which ends June the 30th, - so may I again request that each of you make every effort to knight every Petitioner before your Commandery closes for the summer.

To the Commanders and Officers of the Constituent Commanderies who have cooperated so faithfully in their efforts, particularly in the field of Candidates, may I express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation. Sir Knights, as you know, our goal was to attain 1,000 Candidates. However, with the close of May, with only one month to go, we have fallen short. As of today we show a total of 719 petitions. Will you therefore do your utmost to secure at least three more petitions before your statistical year ends?

The "ALL MASONIC NIGHT" that will be held on June 11th promises to be even more successful than those that were held in the past. It now appears that we will have 37 of our 50 Commanderies represented by at least 800 Knights in uniform. We are indeed indebted to Aleppo Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. for again being invited to participate in this glorious display of Masonry on parade. Some - perhaps most of you - know that this affair is run almost single-handed by our own Rt. Em. Sir Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr., and to him we extend our heartfelt thanks and undying gratitude for his tireless efforts and success.

Sir Knights, the Knights Templar no longer march in the front lines of battle, swinging broad axe and sword. Theirs is a task of the spirit. Theirs to keep alive in the archives of their Temples the great fundamental truths upon which our speculative Order of the Temple of today is founded. No man can ever experience initiation into the Order of Templary without discovering a sense of exaltation. No man can ever study the history of the Order and the meanings of its mysteries without becoming a finer American and a better Christian. And that above all else on earth today is what this nation needs.

Wishing for each and every one of you a very pleasant and enjoyable Summer vacation,

Courteously yours,

ELLIOTT N. HOLLEY
Grand Commander.

Thirteen years ago your present Grand Recorder who in 1947 was your Grand Commander, had a dream or an idea to have a paper or bulletin published. In October 1947 the present TEMPLAR was conceived and written for the purpose of advancing the interests of Knights Templar in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. (This Bulletin has been published each year since -- this year is Volume #13.)

The TEMPLAR comes to you as a messenger of goodwill. The Grand Commander and his Officers welcome this means of acquainting our members of Constituent Commanderies with the important news items and activities of Templary, believing that an informed Sir Knight is an enthusiastic Sir Knight. It was hoped that the information contained would tend to stimulate a greater interest in our Order and arouse a higher degree of devotion to this Christian branch of Masonry. NOTE: Copies of our Bulletin have been sent to every Grand Jurisdiction in the United States and Canada. We have received many favorable comments and words of encouragement from various leaders of Templary, including Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker, Rt. Em. Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment and at present Secretary of the Army.

OUR HERITAGE

The year 1960 marks the 842nd Anniversary of the Knights Templar, the most powerful and spectacular of the three organizations which developed during the occupation of the Holy Land. From the Masonic calendar for the Knights Templar, we have the date of the founding of the Order in 1118 A.D. From the Christian era, take 1118 - thus 1118 from 1960 gives us the 842nd anniversary of this important historical event. The Holy Land groups were Latin Christians forming the Knights Templar, the Knights Hospitaller and the Teutonic Knights. In the year of 1118 the Order of Knights Templar was organized by eight Knights under the leadership of Hugh de Payens, a Burgundian Knight who was the first Grand Master of the Knights Templar. Soon the Order attracted the attention of Baldwin II, King of Jerusalem, who sanctioned it and assigned it quarters in a building on the site once occupied by King Solomon's Temple, and they became known as Templars, or Knights of the Temple. Their Chapel was the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. These early Templars formed themselves into a society for the purpose of conducting Pilgrims on their perilous journeys to and from Jerusalem and the Holy City. Their last Grand Master was Jacques de Molay. This was only the beginning and a small part of a most fascinating historical story. Templary in its deepest reality concerns itself with the soul of man. Today, in the Twentieth Century, modern Templary pledges unwearied zeal in a brother's cause and the teachings and precepts of the Great Captain of our Salvation. The Cross is written in capital letters across every page of our history.

June 17th marks the 185th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill. In this battle, Major General Joseph Warren, at that time acting Grand Master for the Continent of America, was the first Knight Templar to yield up his life in our battle for freedom. His Masonic record is as follows: he was made a Master Mason in St. Andrew's Lodge of Boston on Nov. 28, 1765; he was made a Templar in St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge of Boston (now St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter) on May 14, 1770;

in December 1769 he received a commission from the Grand Lodge of Scotland making him Grand Master of Masons in Boston and for one hundred miles around; on March 7, 1772 he received another commission making him Grand Master of Masons for the Continent of America. He died on the field of battle June 17, 1775. Although General Warren was termed a Revolutionist, he was fighting for the principles upon which our Order was founded: Freedom, Liberty, Justice and the Christian Religion.

June will also bring to an end the present "petition" year. Throughout the entire year all over these two states, the Sir Knights have enthusiastically joined with your Grand Officers in their efforts to maintain leadership and show a net gain in membership. The admonition is: Knight every Candidate before closing for the summer! Your net gain or loss is determined by your Official Return as of June 30, 1960. Your efforts have been recorded and real progress has been made in the number of petitions presented. There has been an influx of new members in many of our Commanderies, but we must warn the officers of the Constituent Commanderies that our work is not yet completed. During the conferring of the Orders upon these Candidates, we feel certain that they were tremendously impressed with the beauty of our work dramatizing these Orders in a never-to-be-forgotten manner. To complete our work, it is necessary to continue our interest in these newly created Sir Knights, to enlist their service in the activities of our Commanderies, and to encourage them to attend the Conclaves. We must start now to install into our new Sir Knights the enthusiasm, the loyalty and the devotion which has spurred you and me to give our utmost to build Templary in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Much interest has been noted among former members of our Commanderies, men who have held demits or had to forfeit their membership for some reason, financial or otherwise. A restored member is as good as a new one and does not need to be sold on Templary. He knows what it is all about. Invite him to return - we need him - we stand ready to make his return a simple matter. Contact that one-time member and get in touch with the Recorder, who will have the answer. Put a current membership card in his pocket. The time is now! "It may be later than you think".

Now is the time for Templars to declare themselves. We have a great heritage and we are peering apprehensively, yet hopefully to a glorious future. The present days challenge Templary as has no time in the history of this great Christian Order. Why do we stress Templary so much? We stress Templary because we desire peace in our time. Certainly the gravity of issues here and abroad are so earnest that only through the application of Christian and kindred influences can mankind arrive at an approximation of Justice in the world. Certainly in all countries there is ample testimony on every hand to indicate illegitimate reaching for power by certain groups which have dared to set themselves above sovereign government and democracy. This is not in the pattern of the American Constitution. Is this a challenge to take more seriously and more personally those obligations which are cardinal to our role as Templars and our American Way of Life?

Let us here and now affirm our faith in the Risen Emmanuel - the great Captain of our Salvation, ever remembering IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.

NAME OF COMMANDERY	QUOTA	8 MOS.	MAY	TOTAL
St. John's	40	3	1	4
Boston	75	47	2	49
Newburyport	20	21	0	21
Washington	7	2	0	2
Worcester County	48	22	6	28
Springfield	34	17	0	17
De Molay	54	34	6	40
Holy Sepulchre	23	26	0	26
Pilgrim	19	48	0	48
Palestine	14	10	0	10
Milford	11	11	1	12
St. Bernard	6	4	0	4
Calvary	41	5	0	5
Haverhill	26	17	0	17
Old Colony	14	13	0	13
Sutton	37	19	1	20
Bethany	10	9	2	11
Winslow Lewis	14	4	1	5
Jerusalem	20	13	2	15
Hugh de Payens	39	15	1	16
St. Omer	20	6	0	6
Berkshire	18	32	0	32
Conn. Valley	9	2	0	2
Woonsocket	11	3	0	3
Godfrey deBouillon	8	13	0	13
Joseph Warren	11	13	0	13
Narragansett	13	4	0	4
Bristol	17	21	2	23
Northampton	8	2	0	2
South Shore	11	2	0	2
Trinity	12	18	0	18
Natick	18	29	5	34
Coeur de Lion	25	20	6	26
Gethsemane	32	23	0	23
Olivet	30	7	1	8
Athol	9	2	0	2
Bay State	25	17	1	18
Cyprus	11	11	0	11
St. Paul	7	0	0	0
Beauseant	22	11	0	11
Cambridge	9	5	1	6
Bethlehem	11	21	0	21
Orange	5	7	NN	7
Ivanhoe	17	18	0	18
Quincy	20	7	0	7
Temple	13	8	0	8
St. Andrew	11	7	1	8
Reading	21	15	1	16
Thomas Smith Webb	13	7	1	8
Sir Galahad	11	7	1	8
TOTAL	1000	678	43	721

1959-1960 Monthly Objective
Necessary to Reach Quota

	OBJ.	ACT.
Sept.	55	44
Oct.	120	124
Nov.	96	53
Dec.	88	85
Jan.	103	77
Feb.	138	109
Mar.	110	116
Apr.	126	70
May	104	43
June	80	

Accumulative

	OBJ.	ACT.
Sept.	55	44
Oct.	175	165
Nov.	271	221
Dec.	359	306
Jan.	462	383
Feb.	600	492
Mar.	710	608
Apr.	836	678
May	940	721
June	1000	

Comparison

	1960	1959	1958	1957
Sept.	44	19	45	53
Oct.	168	96	140	185
Nov.	221	141	221	241
Dec.	306	225	269	312
Jan.	383	293	349	409
Feb.	492	419	430	520
Mar.	608	495	511	616
Apr.	678	619	613	707
May	721	688	693	772
June		768	744	832

Sir Knights:

Bethany and Coeur de Lion Commanderies reached - and exceeded - their petition quotas in May.

We congratulate Em. Commanders William J. Morton and Roy W. Audunson.

GET PETITIONS! Make June a "BIG" month. It's never too late! Two Commanderies will confer all three orders in June - one of them in a single day! They'll be glad to help you complete your work on June Petitioners. You can get a Special Dispensation to vote on them.

Every month is "the right time" to get Petitions - to build Templary!

J. Leroy Jones, Director
Membership Progress & Publicity